



Photo by Airman 1st Class Ryan Wilson

## Two star tries new airframe

Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, Air Combat Command director of operations, prepares for a B-2 orientation flight, as Master Sgt. Pierre Charles, 509th Operations Support Squadron, hands the general life support equipment. During his two- and a-half-day tour, General DeCuir visited the 715th Weapons and 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron, 393rd and 325th Bomb squadrons, the control tower, and radar approach and control facilities. Tech. Sgt. Jackie Eldridge, 509th OSS, is also pictured.

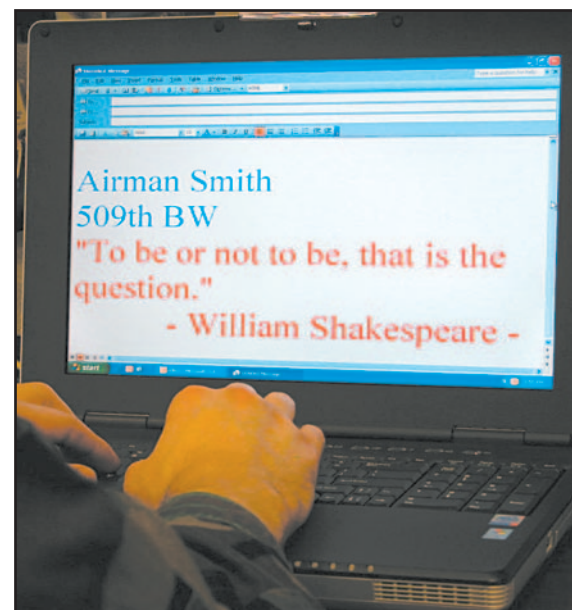


Photo by Senior Airman Joe Laccard

**Air Force officials recently ruled that creative signatures like this are not authorized.**

## Air Force officials halt e-mail extras

By Michael Briggs

12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — People who like to include fancy signature blocks, thoughtful quotations, colorful backgrounds or cute clip art in the e-mails they send should stop doing so immediately, according to Air Force officials.

In the new Air Force instruction that governs electronic messaging, such extras are prohibited as they may not present a professional image and can take up too much bandwidth, thereby clogging up and slowing down the e-mail system, said Mary Caudell, lead for messaging services at the 12th Communications Squadron here.

The revision of AFI 33-119, Air Force Messaging, released Oct. 27, states in paragraph 3.7, "Users will not add slogans, quotes, special backgrounds, special stationeries, digital images, unusual fonts, etc., routinely to their official or individual electronic messages. Users must consider professional image and conservation of Air Force network resources (bandwidth)."

With more than 11,000 customers using network services at Randolph alone, Ms. Caudell said the amount of electronic message traffic is "astronomical" here, and users must follow standards.

"Part of the rationale for revising the AFI was

See E-MAIL, Page 5

# Airmen net 3.5 percent raise

## Bill authorizes permanent increased deployment pay

By Gerry Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — Money contained within the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act will fund a 3.5 percent troop pay raise and eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for family housing, DOD's top military personnel official noted.

The January troop pay raise will be applied across the board to all servicemembers and won't feature pay hikes targeted to specific ranks as in past years, David Chu, the

undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said during a recent Pentagon interview.

The targeted raises issued to mid-level officers and non-commissioned officers over the past two years, Mr. Chu explained, "have fixed," for now, most pay-disparity issues involving those ranks.

And, he noted, money is contained in the 2005 act to boost allowances that now eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket expenses used for on- or off-post family housing. Stateside and overseas family housing allowances are calculated according to regional markets.

Another provision in the 2005 NDAA removes a previously established ceiling limiting how much military family-housing inventory could be privatized, Mr. Chu said.

Privatization enables DOD to modernize its military family

See INCREASE, Page 5

## News in Brief

### Tree lighting ceremony set

The 509th Bomb Wing's annual tree lighting ceremony begins at 5 p.m. Monday on Spirit Boulevard and 3rd Street adjacent to the shoppette. A reception follows at 5:30 p.m. in the community center and consists of free children's Bingo, a performance from Whiteman Elementary select choir, Santa visits, and holiday crafts and tree decorations. Children's make-and-take crafts are free with the donation of canned goods that will go to the food pantry.

### Thanks to the 'cookie patrol'

Rhonda Miller, spouse of Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, thanks those who participated in the annual Cookies for Airmen program. More than 600 dozen cookies were donated for distribution for Airmen living in the base dormitories. "Additionally, a special 'thank you' goes to the children of the Whiteman Elementary School, youth center, teen center, child development center and special families who decorated the gift bags," Mrs. Miller said.

### WOSC schedules meeting

The Whiteman Officers' Spouses' Club meets at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 16 at the base chapel annex. Breakfast will be served and the chapel handbell choir and WOSC Skylarks will provide entertainment.

This month's charity collection will be for the Missouri veteran's home in Warrensburg. For more details, call Cindy Johnson at 660-238-5030. To R.S.V.P., email Tracy Michaud at tmichaud98@yahoo.com

### Legal office limits service

The 509th Bomb Wing Legal Office offers limited service Wednesday and Thursday for a staff training session.

Emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Customers who need routine legal assistance can visit the legal office 8 a.m.-noon Monday, and 8-10 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Tuesday. For more details, call the legal office at 687-6809.

For community events, see Page 16

# Traditions keep families close even when apart

By Lt. Col. Thomas Summers

741st Missile Squadron commander

**MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AFPN) --** Everyone values his or her family. Out of our sense of family and patriotic duty, many active-duty members, Guardsmen, Reservists and civilians serve the military with their immediate families standing by their side each step of the way. Most left their familiar hometowns and asked their families to accompany them or stay behind as those in uniform serve our country.

Although we come from many diverse backgrounds, cultures and traditions, we share a common spirit of patriotism, confidence and purpose on one team, in one force and as one Air Force family. Right now, some may feel a sense of sorrow or distress because they can't go home for the holidays due to mission requirements.

Don't despair. You're not alone. One positive way to help manage sadness and stress during the holiday season and build healthy families is by practicing time-honored family and Air Force traditions or by establishing new ones.

Traditions help us stay close to family and friends and show how much we care about those around us, especially

during the holidays. Without the normal daily distractions, holiday rituals and traditions ensure we do the things we value with the people we love. For example, many families enjoy making and then eating favorite treats, special dishes or ethnic foods for Thanksgiving. In addition, we keep in touch and stay current through phone calls, family newsletters, e-mails and photographs. Also, we show our care and love for each other with gifts, preparations and spontaneous displays of emotion.

By practicing our favorite traditions, we feel more relaxed and comfortable enough to openly express our heartfelt appreciation for one another. When we talk longingly about our dad's reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas', our mother's delicious homemade turkey dinner or remembering the year we finally "graduated" from sitting at the kids' table to eating with the adults, it's the emotions and good feelings connected to those experiences we really miss.

Traditions also help us build a family identity. In our immediate and Air Force families, our traditions help us establish how we communicate, how we make decisions and solve problems as well as how we celebrate holidays, milestones and other events. Our traditions say, "This is

how we do things in this family. This is how we decorate our Christmas tree. This is how we practice our spiritual beliefs. This is how we take care of our Airmen. This is who we are."

The older members of our family and Air Force bring patience, wisdom and colorful stories while the younger members bring youthful wonder, energy and excitement as together we bridge generations and enrich each others' lives.

Furthermore, traditions help provide us settings to teach family values. Just as the Air Force teaches the core values of integrity, service and excellence, other family traditions help teach family values through repetition. Since we learn powerful lessons from the activities we repeat year after year, many rituals and traditions foster a tranquil and cheerful atmosphere where learning is likely to flourish. Over time, our family and Air Force values become a part of who we are.

Traditions promote healthy family growth and give us many wonderful reasons to celebrate life together. No matter where this holiday season finds you, observing past or crafting new traditions are fantastic ways of building strong, caring and happy families.

## Dec. 7, 1941: 'May we learn from history'

By Lt. Col. Jeffrey Johnson

509th Medical Support Squadron commander

Tuesday marks the 63rd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. This is a day that always reminds me of my father and Pearl Harbor veteran, the late John Johnson.

My dad, or "Pops" as I called him, has been gone six years now. However, he's always with me, for I am my father's son. I'd like to share just a bit about what Pops Johnson taught me, especially from his experience on that 'day of infamy', 63 years ago.

On Dec. 7, 1941, my dad, then a Navy Seaman 2nd Class, boarded a troop ship headed to Pearl Harbor for his first duty assignment. Pops joined the Navy due to his own patriotic convictions to support the war effort. He also signed up to relieve his older and younger brothers' obligations, allowing them to stay back on the family farm in Indiana, helping my grandfather with the family's dairy business.

Pops Johnson, like many war veterans, never really said much about his war experiences. As a kid, I'd often ask him about it, but he'd get a far away look and simply tell me he hoped I never had to learn firsthand what war was like. I do know that every Dec. 7, at 6 a.m., we raised our U.S. flag in front of the house. We would stand silently and reverently watch it, regardless of the potentially harsh Indiana winter wind.

One particular Dec. 7 happened to be a Sunday. Pops and I had bundled up, taken out the colors. We were prepared to hoist her aloft when Pops stopped me for just a moment.

He looked skyward, at the hastening dawn, the air crisp and clear. It was if Pops was listening for something, or scanning the heavens as if expecting to see an intruder. He shook his head, turned back to me as we finished raising the flag. Once back inside, I asked him what he was looking for.



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

**Lt. Col. Jeffrey Johnson, 509th Medical Support Squadron commander, explains a portrait of the Pearl Harbor bombing to Master Sgts. James McFarland and Steve Chabotte, 509th Medical Group. Colonel Johnson's late father, John, was assigned at Pearl Harbor during the bombings.**

ing for.

Pops didn't answer right away. He sighed heavily, looked me square in the eye.

"That Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, was very much

like this morning," he said. "We were over halfway from San Francisco to Pearl ..."

See **JOHNSON**, Page 20

### Editorial Staff

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**Chief, Public Affairs** ..... Maj. Don Langley  
**NCOIC, Public Affairs** ..... Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp  
**Editor** ..... Senior Airman Joe Lacdan  
**Staff writer** ..... Airman Jason Burton  
**Staff writer** ..... Melissa Klinkner

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**The deadline for article submissions to the *Whiteman Spirit* is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.**

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111  
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

## DOD to use new defense

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Department of Defense's new strategy for helping protect the nation is to have a "forward-deployed active-layered defense," said the man who helped craft the plan.

Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, said his agency "firmly believes" the nation's defense begins overseas. And DOD's homeland-defense strategy aims to "shape the battle space far forward from the United States' homeland."

Mr. McHale spoke at a two-day conference that focused on ways to better protect the nation's infrastructure, such as bridges and power plants.

"We must detect the enemy threat long before it approaches the United States. We must track that threat as it approaches the United States," he said. "If we identify an enemy threat only after it has come ashore, only after it has penetrated our defenses, only after that weapon of mass destruction is located within the United States port or facility, it's too late."

To prevent that from happening, he said department officials now have forward-deployed mission capabilities that did not exist three years ago. Those capabilities include the ability to intercept a commercial aircraft that may be converted to a weapon. "We train for that mission every day," Mr. McHale said. "We have F-15 [Eagles] and F-16 [Fighting Falcons] in the air conducting combat-air patrols, prepared to intercept any threat in the air domain."

Combat-air patrols are also being flown on a random basis over major metropolitan cities and key facilities and power plants, he said.

"We were not conducting those missions on Sept. 11; we are effectively conducting them today," he said.

Mr. McHale also said changes in maritime

security will focus on being able to "identify, intercept and defeat weapons of mass destruction on the high seas." The most "probable course of action" for terrorists to bring the weapons into the United States from overseas would be through the ports system, he said. "We have to forward deploy our maritime defenses, our surveillance capabilities, our surface combatants with the right kinds of operational capabilities to detect and defeat (the enemy) on the high seas, ideally hundreds of nautical miles from our coasts."

He said the proliferation security initiative gives U.S. Northern Command officials, who are defending the homeland, an important interdiction requirement that will include the area up to 500 nautical miles from the Pacific coast and 1,700 nautical miles off the Atlantic coast.

Mr. McHale said the Navy and Coast Guard signed an agreement to ensure the "complete integration" of maritime forces. "We are in this fight together," he said.

Meanwhile, he said he is surprised the country has not faced a follow-on attack from al-Qaida since Sept. 11, 2001. But, he said, "it is not because the United States has been lucky." "Luck had nothing to do with it," he said. "If we rely on luck, we (will) be defeated."

Instead, he said, the United States has been proactive in going after the enemy.

"By developing a strategy of forward-deployed and active-layered defense supported by the very best technology that we can commit to that mission, we can be very proactive identifying the enemy threat, whether that threat exists in Afghanistan or off the coast of the United States or within our own cities," he said.

Mr. McHale said sending troops into places like Afghanistan and Iraq has disrupted al-Qaida's ability to plan and deliver follow-on attacks. By removing the Taliban from power and driving them up into the mountains, "we put them in a very difficult position to plan follow-on attacks," he said.

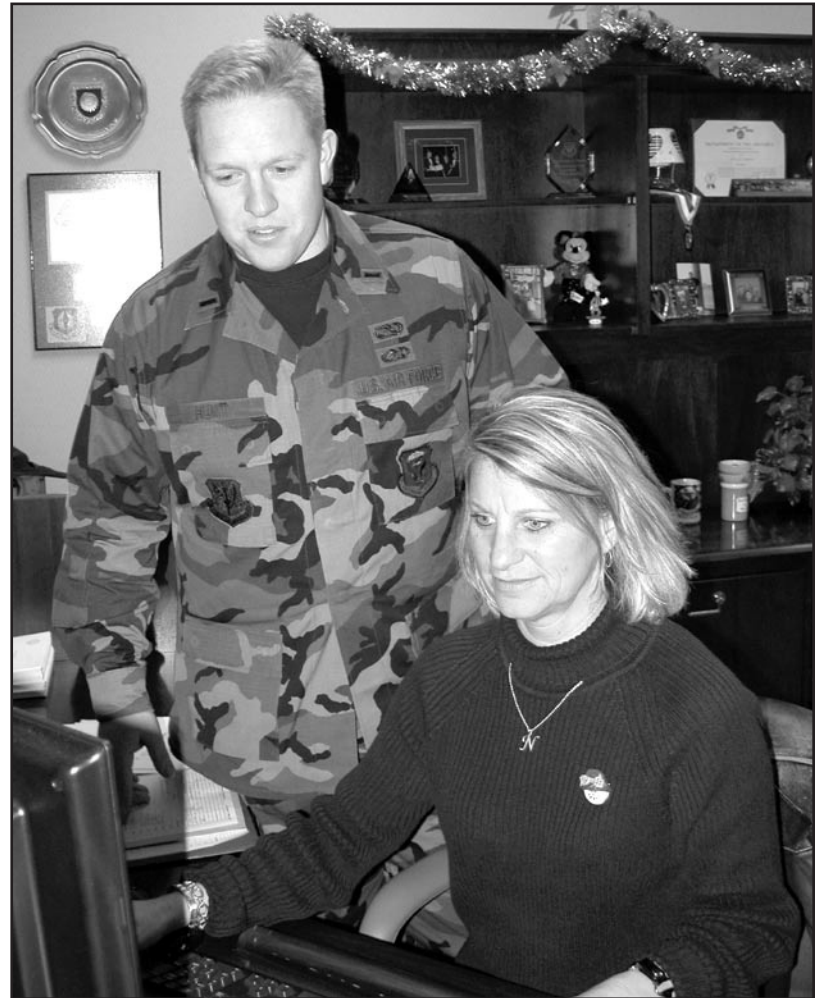


Photo by Airman Jason Burton

### First class L.T.

First Lt. Kevin Hunt, talks with Natalie Thomas. Lieutenant Hunt was selected from 512 students as the Maj. Gen. Robert Sadler award winner while attending the Expeditionary Communications Officer Training Course. He was ranked first among 32 classes of students. Lieutenant Hunt and Mrs. Thomas are 509th Maintenance Group members.



Courtesy photo

### Me, my dog and who?

Staff Sgt. Michael Shelite, an 407th Air Expeditionary Group member and K-9 military working dog handler, poses with his dog, Bbrandt, in front of a wall painting of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Sergeant Shelite is a deployed 509th Security Forces Squadron.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole

### Cookie crunch

Paula Erichsen, Tech. Sgts. Jesse Lee, 509th Operations Support Squadron, and Russell Marroon, 509th Maintenance Squadron, package cookies for the annual Cookies for Airmen program. More than 600 dozen cookies were donated. Volunteers packaged the goods at the chapel Tuesday and Wednesday for Airmen who live in the dormitories. The event was sponsored by the Whiteman First Sergeants Group and officer's Spouses Club.

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Photo by 1st Lt. Ed Gulick

## Operation Warm Heart

**“Santa,” Staff Sgt. Maurice Ingram, and Staff Sgt. Nicholas Fereber, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, watch retired Senior Master Sgt. Bill Jensen make a donation to the Operation Warm Heart program. Operation Warm Heart is a program organized by the Whiteman First Sergeants’ Group to raise money for needy junior enlisted Airmen. Volunteers from each squadron dress up as Santa Claus and collect donations at the commissary.**

## Former B-2 test pilot gets scare

**By Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster**  
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFPN)** — Like most passengers on a commercial airlines flight, Lt. Col. Scott Neumann probably expected a long, uneventful flight from Dulles International Airport in Washington to Los Angeles.

Boy, was he wrong.

The deputy commander for the 412th Operations Group at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., had just wrapped up a semianual National Aeronautic Association meeting and was settled into his seat in coach class for his coast-to-coast trip Nov. 9.

During the flight, he had struck up a conversation with one of the flight attendants. He shared that he had been a test pilot for the B-2 Spirit and other aircraft.

With small talk aside, the flight attendant went about her business, and so did Colonel Neumann — but not for long.

“About one and a half hours into the flight, the flight attendant made an announcement requesting a doctor or nurse,” he said. Then she gathered up the airliner’s medical equipment and an oxygen bottle and headed toward the cockpit.

The co-pilot was having a seizure.

The pilot, an airline captain, had struggled to restrain the seizing co-pilot as he sought help and piloted the aircraft during the episode.

A nurse who was a passenger behind Colonel Neumann responded to the request for assistance. And when the call came out for a couple of strong, able bodies, Colonel Neumann and a fellow traveler stepped forward.

They moved the co-pilot into the forward galley to allow the nurse to treat his symptoms.

The 737’s pilot, now without a co-pilot, decided to divert to Colorado Springs Airport. The flight attendant told him about Colonel Neumann’s experience as a test pilot.

“You’ll do,” the captain told the colonel. So Colonel Neumann moved from coach to better than first class. Despite being new to the 737 airframe, Colonel Neumann said he helped the pilot run checklists and land the plane.

Upon landing in Colorado Springs just after 10 a.m., a medical crew from the base here arrived to assist the co-pilot.

Unfortunately, Colonel Neumann’s eventful flight led to a crew and aircraft change in what was supposed to be a non-stop flight to Los Angeles. Given his involvement, the colonel was late in arriving to the ticket counter to get onto the new flight. The new aircraft was booked solid.

However, when the ticketing agent learned he had been the one who co-piloted the airliner after the emergency, the agent booked him a first-class seat.

“Not quite as good as the one I had,” Colonel Neumann said.

On the plus side, the emergency allowed the test pilot to log in “two or three tenths of an hour in a 737,” he said. It might not seem like much when compared to the stick time he has with the B-2, B-1 Lancer, F-16 Fighting Falcon, KC-135 Stratotanker, C-12 and C-130 Hercules airframes.

“But this will be a lot more memorable,” he said.

## RAISE, continued from Page 1

housing more quickly and efficiently, Chu said. About one-third of military families live in on-post housing.

If DoD funded all of its existing family-housing needs by itself, Mr. Chu explained, it would take the department "forever" to make needed repairs or to replace aging housing units largely built in the 1950s.

Mr. Chu pointed to privatization success stories, such as contractor-provided housing for soldiers and their families at Fort Carson, Colo. Such private sector-provided housing offers contemporary quality and "design flair" for servicemembers while providing more bang for the buck for taxpayers.

The act also contains three special pay and bonus authorities, Mr. Chu noted. For example, the bill makes permanent the increase to military family separation pay to \$250 a month and likewise hostile fire/imminent danger pay at \$225 a month.

The bill also provides "a much

stronger set" of re-enlistment bonuses for Guard and Reserve members.

Chu said the '05 NDAA ensures that troops in the field receive the equipment and other material they require to successfully prosecute the global war against terrorism.

The bill also provides extended health coverage for some reservists, Chu noted, as well as better Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits. Another change contained in the '05 NDAA enables reservists to be called up for training before possible overseas deployment. This, Chu pointed out, is a more efficient means of force management.

A major highlight of military personnel management during his tenure, Chu observed, involves successive increases in troop compensation.

"The president has been willing to carry the torch for us to argue for significant pay increases," Chu noted, as well as to reduce and eventually eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for military housing.

## E-MAIL, continued from Page 1

electronic messaging started to detract from the Air Force mission," she said. "The new AFI provides guidelines designed to keep messages as professional and uniform as possible."

Following the guidance in the regulations that govern communications, the standard for message text and signature blocks is 10- or 12-point font. Also, all official electronic messaging will include "//SIGNED//" in upper case before the signature block to signify it contains official Air Force information, according to AFI 33-119.

The guidance provided in the revised AFI serves as a reminder to users about where they work, Ms. Caudell said.

"Most people spend a lot of time on their computers at work, and many have started to use the system as if it were their home system," she said. "We all need to remember we are on government computer systems and must use our computers appropriately."

## Help keep 'em flying



Report illegal drug activity to Detachment, 207, Air Force Office of Special Investigations by calling 687-1852 or the 509th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement desk at 687-3700 after duty

**You can never B-2 safe!**

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Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

## **Civilian Employee of the week**

John Luke, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, shows Airman 1st Class Brett Saunders, 509th CES, how to use a cable locator. Mr. Luke supervised a lightning protection project that eliminated a nuclear surety inspection demerit. This project ensures the safety of weapons in storage or inside aircraft in the docks. Tech. Sgt. Robert Waldorf, 509th CES exterior electric superintendent, nominated Mr. Luke for this award.

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## Whiteman Spirit Award



### Maj. Karen Ashley

509th Medical Operations Squadron

Maj. Karen Ashley, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Nov. 22.

Staff Sgt. Jason Hemphill, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, nominated Major Ashley for the award.

Major Ashley is currently on temporary duty from the 1st Medical Operations Squadron, Langley Air Force Base, Va. She has provided manning assistance here since Oct. 25. Major Ashley assisted the Sergeant Hemphill and his family when their newborn daughter became ill. Major Ashley came in on a Saturday to treat their daughter.

“My husband and I are grateful for all the kindness and caring that she gave our family,” Juli Hemphill said. “I wish there were more people like her at Whiteman. Many thanks from our family and from the many others she has touched since she has been here.”

### Personally Speaking

**Duty title:** Pediatric nurse practitioner

**Time on station:** 1 month (TDY from Langley AFB)

**Time in service:** 14 years

**Hometown:** Oceanside, Calif.

**Spouse:** David

**Hobbies:** Horse training, all basketball events, bowling and spending time with children.

**Goals:** Continue to serve my country, retire to the Northwest and some “real” mountains

**Best thing about Whiteman:** The people — hospitality beyond belief.

**Pet Peeves:** Assumptions: Assuming always gets folks in trouble.

**What motivates your winning spirit?** The children. I love them all.

**If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be?** The scenery. It’s a bit flat for me but the base architecture is awesome.

## Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to “make it happen.”

If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail [whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil](mailto:whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil).

**Airmen Against Drunk Driving**  
**Call 687-RIDE or**  
**877-518-6802**

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Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you’d like to see in the paper?

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For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail [whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil](mailto:whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil).

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# Finance Airman hones skills on job — in Baghdad



By Melissa Klinkner  
Public Affairs

In late May, excited and prepared for the opportunity to serve her country in a foreign setting, a young woman confidently set foot on distant soil.

The location was Baghdad International Airport. She was not only the first finance Airman to arrive from Whiteman, but the first finance Airman Baghdad International Airport had received.

This 23-year-old woman was Senior Airman Mae Ferrer, 509th Comptroller Squadron. Assigned to a finance position in Baghdad, generally reserved for staff or technical sergeants, Airman Ferrer was selected for her skill level and experience.

“Her initiative to learn as much as she could and become as proficient as possible before her deployment led her to gain knowledge and skills non-commissioned officers are expected to possess,” said Master Sgt. William Pauley, 509th CPTS, deployed to Baghdad with Airman Ferrer.

Master Sgt. Danette Nall, 509th CPTS first sergeant, agreed.

“She was an asset during her deployment because she constantly looked for better

ways to do business and take care of the customer,” Sergeant Nall said. “This is especially difficult to do in the deployed environment.”

Airman Ferrer worked as a cashier and provided customer service for finance customers while at Baghdad International Airport. She also received a Peer Award in recognition of superior financial management service. The award recognized the Airman for her daily efforts, for establishing a new follow-up routine with military and travel pay — so successful it was implemented at other sites — and learning new computer systems.

“Her voracity for learning paid off enabling a unique flexibility by being able to perform many accounting liaison office duties while maintaining the integrity of payments as cashier,” her deployed supervisor wrote.

In Iraq, Airman Ferrer said she was faced with different challenges in her position, one of which was learning to deal with the Iraqi vendors.

“At times, it was hard to communicate with them,” she said. “They weren’t used to the idea of having a female paying them. As time went on, though, they became much nicer and even gave me gifts.”

Airman Ferrer said she learned many

*See FERRER, Page 18*



Courtesy photo

**BAGHDAD, IRAQ — Senior Airman Mae Ferrer, 509th Comptroller Squadron, makes her largest payment of \$750,000 to an Iraqi vendor. She worked as a cashier and provided customer service for finance customers at Baghdad International Airport.**

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# Spotlight on Justice

In October, 12 people received Articles 15 and five were discharged.

## Article 15s

An airman first class from the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for providing alcohol to a minor. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$100 pay, restriction to base for 45 days and 30 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 509th AMXS received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for viewing and storing pornography on a government computer. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman first class, forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months and 30 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron received an Article 15 for assault and battery of a child under the age of 16. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman basic and 45 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Communications Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for wrongfully appropriating a motor vehicle and for driving a vehicle that was not properly insured. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, restriction to base for 45 days and 14 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 509th CS received an Article 15 for failure to go on time to his appointed place of duty and dereliction of duty for viewing chat rooms on a government computer. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman first class and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron received an Article 15 for disobeying a lawful command to refrain from riding a motorcycle on base. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman and 14 days extra duty.

An airman from the 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for failure to go and for leaving his place of duty. The punishment was reduction to airman basic, restriction to base for 45 days and 45 days extra duty.

An airman from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for misuse of his government travel card. The punishment was reduction to airman basic and five days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for failure to go to his appointed place of duty and for making a false official statement.

The punishment was reduction to airman and forfeiture of \$668 pay per month for two months.

An airman first class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for having a cell phone while on post and for soliciting another military member to commit an offense. The punishment was reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$150 pay and 12 days extra duty.

A staff sergeant from the 509th SFS received an Article 15 for assault and battery on a child under the age of 16. The punishment was reduction to senior airman, suspended forfeitures of \$300 pay per month for two months and 14 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 509th Services Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty for misuse of his government travel card. The punishment was reduction to airman first class and 14 days extra duty.

## Discharges

An airman first class from the 509th AMXS received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included being late for duty on numerous occasions and failing to maintain dormitory room standards.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included failing to obey a lawful order, failing to maintain the government quarters within standards and making threats toward another.

An airman basic from the 509th MOS received an under other than honorable conditions discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included being late for duty on numerous occasions, making false official statements to superiors and failing to pay just debts.

An airman basic from the 509th SVS received a general discharge for drug abuse. The misconduct included wrongful use of marijuana, violating a general order at a deployed location and making a false official statement.

An airman from the 509th SVS received a general discharge for a pattern of misconduct. The misconduct included being late for duty on several occasions, failing to perform duties, leaving the scene of an accident, underage drinking, unlawfully video taping others without their consent and making false official statements.

## Extra, extra read all about it

**The Whiteman Spirit wants to feature you.**

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# Airmen ready to deploy at moment's notice



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Senior Airman Bradley Coombs, 509th Munitions Squadron, dons his mask during a fit test at bioenvironmental engineering in Bldg. 604. A mask fit test appointment should be made 30 days before deploying. Appointments are available 1-3:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Airmen are reminded not to eat, drink or smoke 30 minutes before a fit test, and to bring mask inserts if corrective lens are worn. To make an appointment or for more details, call 687-4324.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Staff Sgt. Ken Norris, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, gives Airman Nick Delaney, 509th MDOS, a routine vaccination. The immunization clinic is open 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Airman 1st Class Matthew Brinkman fills out paperwork to update his Serviceman Group Life Insurance policy. Airman Brinkman is a member of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron. Deploying members must stop by the military personnel flight to ensure their SGLI and DD form 93, emergency data card, is accurate and up to date. MPF hours are 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For more details, call 687-6426.

By Airman Jason Burton  
Public Affairs

In today's mobile Air Force, anyone can be deployed at anytime.

While many people can get caught up in the emotion involved with deploying, they can overlook some steps needed to have a smooth out processing for deployment.

When people find out they are being tasked for a deployment, the first thing they should do is contact their unit deployment manager, said Tech. Sgt. Kevin Greensage, 509th Services Squadron UDM.

Sergeant Greensage said the deploying Airman will be able to find out all information needed and obtain a squadron and a wing out processing checklist.

Tech. Sgt. David Major, 509th Operations Support Squadron UDM, agrees. He added that people should apply for a government travel card if deploying Airmen don't have one. The government travel card makes buying airline tickets, hotel reservations and meals more convenient for deploying Airmen.

People should get gear after applying for a government travel card.

"Deploying Airmen should go to Envision as soon as possible to pick up clothing and equipment requirements," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Geis, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron UDM. "Most items will need to be ordered and will take time to come in."

Some out processing can be started as soon as deploying Airmen receive his the out processing checklist.

However, there are some things like medical and dental that can't be accomplished until 30 days before the date required in place, Sergeant Major said.

There is not a set time limit for out processing.

"The earlier you start to get the required

equipment and training completed, the better off you will be," said Sergeant Geis. "This allows the deploying Airman time to work on any issues that may arise during out processing."

Deploying Airmen must be sure they know their departure date.

"People need to realize their departure date can be a week or more before their date required in place," Sergeant Major said. "This is important for Airmen carrying a weapon, because they can't take leave in conjunction with the deployment," said Sergeant Major.

He added those people needing a weapon can take leave, but must return to the area a few days before the departure date to receive that weapon.

There are some legal matters deploying Airmen must also consider.

Wills are legal declarations specifying how and to whom people desire their property to be distributed in case of death, said Capt. Adam Slaughter, 509th Bomb Wing chief of legal assistance.

"If you die without a will, your property will be distributed according to the laws of the state of your legal residence at the time of your death," Captain Slaughter said. "The people to whom the state wills your property might not be the one you wish to have your property."

Besides a will, people should get a power of attorney.

A power of attorney is a document by which a person gives someone else the authority to handle specified legal affairs.

"When you appoint someone to be your agent or attorney-in-fact, you have conferred upon that individual the authority to perform certain specified kinds of acts on your behalf," Captain Slaughter said. "These acts are as legally binding as if you yourself performed those acts."

"We generally recommend that you have a special power of attorney that is limited to a reasonable amount of time and is granted for a specific set of transactions," he added, if the airman doesn't want another person to have unlimited access to certain legal matters.

Deployments can also affect families.

The family support center offers many items to help ease a deployment for families.

This includes two 15-minute morale calls per week, a certificate for a free oil change, video teleconferencing capabilities, family connected parties, etc., said Sarah Vansant, FSC discovery center program manager.

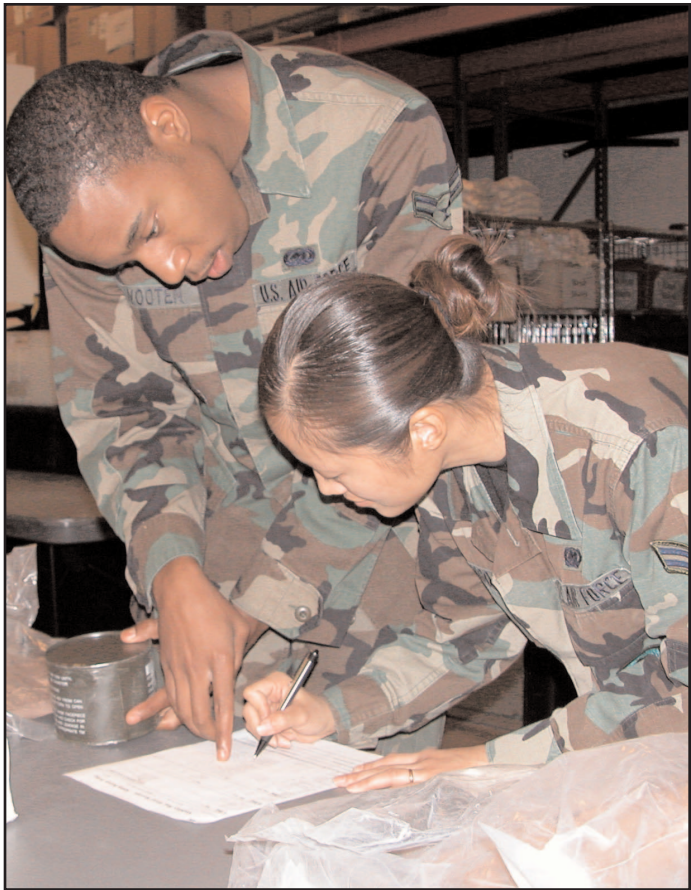


Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Airmen 1st Class David Wooten and Duong Ngo conduct a complete inventory of a chemical warfare bag to ensure assets in the bag haven't expired. They are members of 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron War Readiness Flight.

"Counseling is also available to the spouses and other family members through life skills (687-4314) and the chapel (687-3652)," she said.

Deployment situations can vary depending on where Airman are sent.

"Read your orders completely, the information is essential to have a smooth deployment," said Tech. Sgt. Darrin Tobias, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron UDM.

Deploying Airmen can check the aerospace expeditionary force center Web Site at <https://aefcenter.acc.af.mil>, said Sergeant Tobias. "The 'Deploying Airman' tab includes information to help Airmen prepare for their AEF deployment."

Airmen should read the reporting instruction for the location they're deploying to.

"Reporting instructions let people know what services are available at each location, what type of uniforms are worn, and restrictions on items that can be brought into that operating location," Sergeant Major said.

Most reporting instructions can be found at <https://aefcenter.acc.af.mil/aefonline/reportinginstr.asp>.

To make a deployment easier, deploying Airmen should work together.

"Deploying Airmen should contact the personnel readiness unit at 687-6422 to find out whom they're deploying with. This way they can work as a team, and use their knowledge and experience to make their deployment as smooth as possible," said Sergeant Geis.

More than 200 Airmen from Whiteman are expected to deploy for AEF three and four, which begins in January.



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Laddan

Capt. Adam Slaughter, 509th Bomb Wing chief of legal assistance, talks to Airman 1st Class Chiya Dawoudi, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, about power of attorney. The legal office walk in hours for wills and legal assistance are 8-10 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, and 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays.



Photo by 1st Lt. Ed Gulick

## Next question

KXXK radio personality Kenneth “Treecerman” Wayne interviews Senior Airman Joshua Keyes, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Wednesday. Airman Keyes was asked about his military position, upcoming deployment and goals for the future. This recorded interview can be heard 8:15 a.m. Thursday on 105.7 FM.

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Photo by Airman Jason Burton

## Have your 'elf' a merry little Christmas

Brandy Moore and Capt. Shelly Hilliker applaud as Maj. Don Langley, 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, enters the room as the 509th BW holiday party elf Wednesday. Members of the wing staff voted for the party elf by donating money. More than \$500 was raised to offset ticket cost and award prizes to the event's participants. Captain Hilliker is a member of the 509th BW Legal Office. She also helped plan the annual event and was in charge of the elf voting. Mrs. Moore is a legal office volunteer.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Education

#### AFAS applications available

The \$1,500 Air Force Aid Society and Gen. Henry Arnold Education program applications are available now at the family support center. Interested students can get an application at the FSC or online at <http://www.afas.org>. The grant program is available to active-duty dependent children, spouses, Title 10 reservists on active duty, working full-time, and retired Air Force members. For more details, call the FSC at 687-7132.

### Community

#### Free concert offered to military

Kansas City radio station 106.5 FM presents Operation American soldier, a country concert to benefit the Hero Fund, Wednesday at Whiskey Tango located at 822-D San Kar Dr., in Grain Valley, Mo. The doors open at 5 p.m. and the concert begins at 7 p.m. Craig Morgan, Chely Wright and Keni Thomas are the featured singers for this event. Admission is free for all military members and one guest — a valid military ID must be shown at the door. There's a \$10 donation at the door for civilians. for more details, visit <http://www.wdaf.fm>.

#### Child ID operation begins

The 509th Security Forces Squadron kicks off Operation Child Identification 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 12 at the base exchange. OCI provides parents and guardians the opportunity to have their children fingerprinted and photographed at no cost to them. SFS will take your child's photograph along with fingerprints and add them to a kit that will be given to the parent for safekeeping. For more details, call

Staff Sgt. Kevin Higgs at 687-4482.

#### Christmas cantata set

A Christmas cantata begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 12 at the base chapel. The combined chapel choir will present Christmas music in classical, traditional, contemporary, and gospel styles along with a holiday skit, the bell choir, praise dancing and more. For more details, call the chapel at 687-3652.

### Family Support

Call 687-7132 for more details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

#### Cancer support group to meet

A cancer support group meets at noon Dec. 17 at the family support center. The first meeting will allow base members who are dealing with cancer to meet each other and decide how other meetings will be handled. Refreshments will be provided. To R.S.V.P. call Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole at 687-6125.

#### Special needs meeting set

A forum for parents, teachers and others who care for special needs children will be 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Whiteman Elementary School library. Learn about the support and community services available and meet others who understand the challenges facing special needs families. Free child care will be provided. To R.S.V.P. for child care or for more details, call Jeanette Bachmann at 563-3303.

#### Holiday party for families

A special holiday party for the families of deployed and remote personnel begins at 1 p.m. Saturday. Meet Santa and have lots of fun. Reservations are required.

# FERRER, continued from Page 8

**By Melissa Klinkner**  
Public Affairs

In late May, excited and prepared for the opportunity to serve her country in a foreign setting, a young woman confidently set foot on distant soil.

The location was Baghdad International Airport. She was not only the first finance Airman to arrive from Whiteman, but the first finance Airman Baghdad International Airport had received.

This 23-year-old woman was Senior Airman Mae Ferrer, 509th Comptroller Squadron. Assigned to a finance position in Baghdad, generally reserved for staff or technical sergeants, Airman Ferrer was selected for her skill level and experience.

“Her initiative to learn as much as she could and become as proficient as possible before her deployment led her to gain knowledge and skills non-commissioned officers are expected to possess,” said Master Sgt. William Pauley, 509th CPTS, deployed to Baghdad with Airman Ferrer.

Master Sgt. Danette Nall, 509th CPTS first sergeant, agreed.

“She was an asset during her deployment because she constantly looked for better ways to do business and take care of the customer,” Sergeant Nall said. “This is especially difficult to do in the deployed environment.”

Airman Ferrer worked as a cashier and provided customer service for finance customers while at Baghdad International Airport. She also received a Peer Award in recognition of superior financial management service. The award recognized the Airman for her daily efforts, for establishing a new follow-up routine with military and travel pay — so successful it was implemented at other sites — and learning new computer systems.

“Her voracity for learning paid off enabling a unique flexibility by being able to perform many accounting liaison office duties while maintaining the integrity of payments as cashier,” her deployed supervisor wrote.

In Iraq, Airman Ferrer said she was faced with different



**Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call 1st Lt. Ed Gulick at 687-6122.**

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## A special ‘thank you’

The family of Dustin Maimer would like to express their gratitude to all that sent positive thought and prayers during Dustin’s long battle with brain cancer. Dustin’s father is Master Sgt. Mark Maimer, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to everyone that showed compassion and support during our time of great loss, sadness and sorrow. A special thanks to Maj. Chase McCown and his family, Capt. Summer Worden, Capt. Tim Beck, 1st Lt. Christian Paasch, Chaplain (Capt.) Dan Forman, the

Whiteman Chapel Staff, Chaplain (Capt.) Ray Barrett, Capt. Mike Taplin and Master Sgt. Gary Bolton.

Thanks to the men and women of the 509th AMXS, 509th Medical Group, Flight Medicine, Karrie Bissen, Senior Airman Sonya Parks and the pharmacy staff, our extended military family and friends at Whiteman, and the surrounding area. A very heartfelt thank you for helping us celebrate Dustin’s life here on earth.

Sincerely,  
Mark, Cheri, Daniel, Stephanie and Noah Maimer

## JOHNSON, continued from Page 2

He paused, gathering his thoughts.

“I’ll never forget hearing the claxon sound and the skipper call us to general quarters, ‘Man your battle stations’,” he said.

Dad said Sailors and Marines scrambled everywhere. Pops was an enemy aircraft spotter. So he went to one of the highest and most vulnerable points on the transport to watch for any enemy activity.

All the ship’s crew really knew was that the imperial Japanese navy had attacked the U.S. forces stationed at Pearl Harbor. They had no real idea of the size of the opposing force. They didn’t know if the Japanese fleet had swept past Pearl and was on its way to attack the U.S. mainland. The enemy could well be stalking them at that very moment, waiting to pounce.

My father told me that they stayed at “GQ” for the rest of that day and the next, as they reached Pearl late on Dec. 8. He said they could see the smoke from the burning wreckage miles out to sea. He went on to say they couldn’t even make port for awhile, due to trying to sort out the mess.

They waited, hoping and praying a Japanese submarine didn’t locate and torpedo them to the bottom. Finally, his troop transport was able to dock. He and his shipmates that were stationed on Pearl were able to begin helping to clear and rebuild the harbor. The rest, as we know, is history.

So what did Pops experience teach me? First, he taught me to stay true to my convictions. He use to tell me that standing up for what you believed always builds trust between you and others. They knew where you stood and that they could count on you to do your part. That’s as true for us today as it was for Dad and the greatest generation.

Next, Pops Johnson was adamant that I trust my training, regardless of what the circumstances were. Dad used to quote *Proverbs 1:8* to me, “My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother.”

Pops was right: even under the most intensive times, one’s training, if well learned, will always kickin and serve you well. I know now, he was right.

Dad had faith in the God and country he served. He was very proud of his service and part in World War II. Though he never had to say much, I could see it in his eyes and stance whenever the flag passed by during a parade, or he’d hear the service songs (especially the Navy Hymn). As for his faith in a higher power, we rarely missed Sunday services, or daily devotions. His faith was an anchor in his life, as it is in mine.

Pops also infused his intense passion for creation and the conservation of our resources. I believe that came from his having survived the depression, as well as helping to reconstruct a destroyed military complex. Dad shared with me that understanding that indeed our resources are limited and we do need to use them wisely. I think of him every time I visit the recycling center, I know he’s watching and smiling.

Lastly, Pops Johnson taught me the importance of family. A man of few words, his actions spoke volumes! Pops always opened the door for Mom. He always stood when she left the table, or entered the room. He rarely raised his voice to either my sister or I, but I clearly knew when I was being corrected or disciplined, always, though, in the deepest levels of love and concern for our well-being. Pops supported and encouraged us to be whatever we wanted to be, once again, though reinforcing that conviction — family, faith and dedication to training would be the foundation of any successful venture. Simply put in other words, integrity, excellence and service before self.

So, every Dec. 7, I pause a moment longer to view the flag, I think on those lessons Pops Johnson shared and I remember well the legacy of all those of all branches who have gone before. May we learn from history and apply their understandings to our needs today for hopefully a better future. Hooah...Rock ON!



## Don’t miss out on Tricare benefits

Parents of newborns or adopted children must register them in the Defense Eligibility Reporting System no later than 120 days after the event to receive Tricare Prime benefits. To do this, the sponsor must take a copy of the child’s birth certificate or adoption papers to the military personnel flight customer service section. After enrolling in DEERS, parents can get a Tricare enrollment forms at the 509th Medical Group Tricare Service Center or at <http://www.triwest.com>. To get one by mail, call 888-TRIWEST (874-9378).



Services Page editor.....Jen Hemme  
509th Services Squadron.....687-4386  
\*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

## Sports & Recreation

**Stars & Strikes**  
687-5114



### Sunday family dollar days

- ★ 2-5 p.m. Sundays
- ★ All games \$1.00 per bowler per game
- ★ Shoe rental \$1.00 per pair

**Outdoor Recreation**  
687-5565

### Overtime rock climbing

Join outdoor recreation in nighttime rock climbing today and Dec. 17. Certified climbers can climb 5:30-9 p.m. A certification course for new climbers takes place 6-8 p.m. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up for this free event.

### Rock climbing class

Learn the basics to rock wall climbing 9-11 a.m. tomorrow on the 20-foot wall at outdoor recreation. Learn hands-on knowledge about safety procedures and use of equipment. Call outdoor recreation for more details about this free event.

### Fourth annual polar bear fishing classic

Fish 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 11 at Ike Skelton Park lake. Catch a fish and have it measured. There are two categories, over 18 and under 18. Prizes will be awarded. Free coffee and hot chocolate will be available. Call outdoor recreation for more details about this free event.

**Fitness Center**  
687-5496

### Jingle bell jog



Participate in a 5K walk/run beginning at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 15. The fitness center will provide a jingle bell to be worn on your shoe during the run. Call the fitness center for more details about this free event. Sponsored in part by Gatorade and GNC\* in Warrensburg.

## Travel & Leisure

**Tickets & Travel**  
687-5643

Closed Dec. 19-Jan. 4; moving to the skills development center.

### Spend holidays in Florida

See two amazing theme parks and a collection of must-see seasonal favorites at one entertainment destination. People can see the Universal Island of Adventure's Grinchmas celebration and then go to Universal Studios to catch the Macy's Holiday Parade. Call for more information.

## Food & Fun

**Mission's End**  
687-4422

### Pay-per-view basketball

- Watch "NBA League Pass" games nightly until Dec. 23.
- Watch "ESPN Full Court" games nightly until Dec. 22 with except for Sunday, Dec. 5, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 20.
- Starting times for televised games vary. Call Mission's End for more details. This is free for club members only.

Purchase a  
First Night Button  
for \$5  
at the tree lighting reception  
Monday  
at the community center  
or any time at the  
fitness center,  
Stars & Strikes,  
youth center,  
child development center,  
community center,  
Whiteman Inn and  
Mission's End.

Opening ceremony begins at noon at the fitness center.  
Other activities are 12:30-2 p.m. at the fitness center, 1-4 p.m. at Stars & Strikes, 3-6 p.m. at the community center, 6-7 p.m. at the library, and 7-11 p.m. at Mission's End.

## Whiteman Theater

### Friday & Saturday

**The Grudge** 7 p.m.  
PG-13  
Starring — Sarah Michelle Geller  
& William Mapother

### Sunday

**I Heart Huckabees** 5:30 p.m.  
R  
Starring — Jason Schwartzman &  
Isabelle Huppert

Movies are subject to change due to  
availability.

Movie recording line 687-5110.

Adults \$3.50 Youth \$1.75

For current and future movie listing  
visit <http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>.

## Community Activities

**Community Center**  
687-5617

### Christmas tree contest

Decorate a tree at your work place and enter it in one of five categories: traditional, one-of-a-kind, pitiful, thematic or most elaborate. Enter the contest between until Dec. 10 at the community center. Prizes will be awarded to the first-place winner in each category. Call the community center for more details.

### Shopping trip

Whiteman families and Airmen can holiday shop noon-7 p.m. Dec. 11 at The Plaza in Kansas City, Mo. The cost is \$5 per person. Space is limited; sign up by Dec. 10 at the community center.

**Teen Center**  
687-5819

### Computer mysteries

Take part in a free computer class 3-5 p.m. Saturdays at the teen center. Explore the mysteries of computer equipment, creations and the marvels of technology. Call the teen center for more information.

### Christmas craft clinic

Make an inexpensive gift for friends and family 6-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday at the teen center. There is a \$1 charge per craft and free gift wrapping materials are available. Call the teen center for more information.

### Tournament night

Take part in a variety of card games, trivia and a skills tournament 7-10 p.m. Dec 10 at the teen center. Participants will take home a prize. The snack bar will be open to purchase snacks.

### Holiday party

Celebrate the holidays at the teen center 7-10 p.m. Dec. 17. Purchase a ticket in advance for \$2 per person or \$3 per couple. Tickets at the door cost \$3 per person. Unwrap new videos, music and games to add to the teen center library. Snack will be provided. Call the teen center for more information.

**Youth Center**  
687-5586

### Reptilian night

Join a special guest from Warrensburg Pets and Ponds for a program about reptiles. The event takes place 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 10 at the youth center. There is a \$5 fee for members and \$6.50 fee for non-members. Sign ups begin Monday. Call the youth center for more information.

### Christmas party

The youth center annual Christmas party takes place

6:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 17. Youth can take part in a variety of activities including: cookie decorating, Christmas crafts, watch a movie, karaoke and more. The cost is \$6 for members, \$7.50 for non-members. Refreshments will be provided. Call the youth center to sign up or for more information.

**Skills Development Center**  
687-5691

Closed Dec. 19-Jan. 4

### Doll making class

Take an introduction class on how to make a mini angel doll 1-4 p.m. Dec. 10. There is a \$10 fee for supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

### Ornament making

An ornament making class takes place 6-8 p.m. Thursday. People can make an etched glass ornament for the holidays. There is a \$10 fee for supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

### Framing class

Take a beginners framing class 9 a.m.-noon Wednesday at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

**Library**  
687-5614

### Story time

Story time for children 3- to 5-years-old begins at 10 a.m. Wednesdays in December. Stories will be presented and crafts will be made weekly. For more details, call the library or visit the Web site at <http://www.whitemanAFBlibrary.org>.

**Veterinary Clinic**  
687-2667

### Protect pets from winter's woes

The holiday season can be a hazardous time for pets. Keep your furry friends safe this holiday season by securing electrical cords. Plants such as holly, mistletoe and poinsettias are poisonous — keep these plants out of your pet's reach. Call or visit the veterinary clinic for other winter tips and information.

**Whiteman Inn**  
687-1844

### Lodging holiday policy

During the holiday season, Team Whiteman members can make family reservations up to two weeks before their family arrives through Jan. 31 at Whiteman Inn. People can reserve a total of three nights at a time, with the option to extend, based on availability. Call for more information.